

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
Please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-44 (canceled)

Sub
#1

G1

45. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article, comprising:
a liquid-permeable layer;
a substantially liquid-impermeable layer; and
an absorbent body between the liquid-permeable layer and the
substantially liquid-impermeable layer;
the absorbent body comprising a flowable absorbent material which
remains able to flow up to a water absorption of 10.5 grams per gram flowable
absorbent material and absorbs said amount of water under conditions where no
volume expansion is possible.

46. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 45,
wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises absorbent particles.

47. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 46,
wherein the absorbent particles comprise spherical particles.

KCC-3002

2

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

48. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 46, wherein the absorbent particles have a diameter of about 100-2000 microns.

49. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 46, wherein the absorbent particles have a diameter of about 200-800 microns.

50. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises polymethylene urea.

51. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about one third by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

52. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about one half by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

KCC-3002

3

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

53. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about two thirds by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

54. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least about 80% by weight of the flowable absorbent material.

55. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the flowable absorbent material consists essentially of the polymethylene urea.

56. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 50, wherein the polymethylene urea is substantially free of ether groups and formaldehyde.

57. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises a superabsorbent material.

KCC-3002

4

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

58. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 57,
wherein the superabsorbent material comprises a polyacrylate.

59. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 45,
wherein the absorbent body further comprises a fibrous matrix, and the flowable
absorbent material is disposed within the matrix.

60. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 45,
wherein the absorbent body further comprises at least one care substance.

61. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 60,
wherein the care substance comprises a material selected from extracts of aloe vera,
marigold, chamomile, and combinations thereof.

62. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article, comprising:
a substantially liquid-impermeable layer;
an absorbent body connected to the substantially liquid-impermeable
layer in a central region of the substantially liquid-impermeable layer; and

KCC-3002

5

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

Al
Cub
61

a liquid permeable layer over a side of the absorbent body opposite the substantially liquid-impermeable layer;

the absorbent body comprising a flowable absorbent material which remains able to flow up to a water absorption of 10.5 grams per gram flowable absorbent material and absorbs said ~~amount of~~ water under conditions where no volume expansion is possible.

63. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body and substantially liquid-impermeable layer are connected using an adhesive.

64. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body and substantially liquid-impermeable layer are connected using one or more seams.

65. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises a secondary storage layer including a soft absorbent material.

KCC-3002

6

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

66. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 65, wherein the soft absorbent material comprises a material selected from conform materials, airlaid materials, tissue cotton-wools, and combinations thereof.

67. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 65, wherein the soft absorbent material comprises a nonwoven material selected from spunbond fabrics, carded webs, and combinations thereof.

68. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises a fibrous matrix, and the flowable absorbent material is disposed within the matrix.

69. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 68, wherein the flowable absorbent material is disposed substantially homogeneously within the matrix.

70. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises two or more layers of a fibrous

KCC-3002

7

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

material, and the flowable absorbent material is disposed between the layers of fibrous material.

71. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 68, wherein the fibrous matrix comprises a material selected from cellulose, a cellulose/polypropylene mixture, a coform material, and combinations thereof.

72. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 70, wherein the two or more layers of fibrous material comprise a material selected from cellulose, a cellulose/polypropylene mixture, a coform material, and combinations thereof.

73. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 68, wherein the absorbent body comprises the fibrous material and flowable absorbent material in a weight ratio of about 99-75% fibrous material to about 1-25% flowable absorbent material.

KCC-3002

8

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

74. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the weight ratio is about 95-80% fibrous material to about 5-20% flowable absorbent material.

75. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the weight ratio is about 90-85% fibrous material to about 10-15% flowable absorbent material.

76. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body further comprises at least one care substance.

77. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 76, wherein the care substance comprises a material selected from extracts of aloe vera, marigold, chamomile, and combinations thereof.

78. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 76, wherein the care substance is enclosed in microcapsules.

KCC-3002

9

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

79. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 78, wherein the care substance is releaseable from the microcapsules in response to heat or pressure.

80. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material is treated with a substance selected from bactericidal, fungicidal and viricidal substances, and combinations thereof.

81. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 80, wherein the substance comprises a bactericidal substance selected from chlorinated levulinic acid, alkyl dimethylbenzylammonium halogenides, and combinations thereof.

82. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material remains flowable after absorbing at least 10 ml liquid per gram of flowable absorbent material.

83. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises absorbent particles.

KCC-3002

10

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

84. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 83,
wherein the absorbent particles comprise spherical particles.

85. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 83,
wherein the spherical particles have a diameter of about 100-2000 microns.

86. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 83,
wherein the spherical particles have a diameter of about 200-800 microns.

87. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62,
wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises polymethylene urea.

88. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 87,
wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least one third of the flowable
absorbent material.

89. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 87,
wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least one half of the flowable absorbent
material.

KCC-3002

11

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

90. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least two thirds of the flowable absorbent material.

91. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea constitutes at least 80% of the flowable absorbent material.

92. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the flowable absorbent material consists essentially of the polymethylene urea.

93. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 87, wherein the polymethylene urea is substantially free of ether groups and formaldehyde.

94. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the flowable absorbent material comprises a superabsorbent material.

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

95. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 94, wherein the superabsorbent material comprises a polyacrylate.

96. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62 having a length and a width, wherein the absorbent body comprises at least one core which contains the flowable absorbent material, the core having a length that is less than or equal to the length of the absorbent article, and a width that is less than or equal to the width of the absorbent article.

97. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62, wherein the absorbent body comprises at least two chambers, and at least one wall between the chambers.

98. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 97, wherein the wall is aligned in a longitudinal direction of the absorbent article.

99. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 97, wherein the wall is aligned in a transverse direction of the absorbent article.

KCC-3002

13

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

100. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 97, comprising at least one wall aligned in a longitudinal direction of the absorbent article and at least one wall aligned in a transverse direction of the absorbent article.

101. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 96, wherein the core comprises a plurality of chambers.

102. (Currently Amended) A hygiene article, comprising:
a liquid-permeable layer;
a substantially liquid-impermeable layer; and
an absorbent body between the liquid-permeable layer and the substantially liquid-impermeable layer;

the absorbent body comprising a flowable absorbent material which remains able to flow up to a water absorption of 10.5 grams per gram flowable absorbent material and absorbs said ~~amount of~~ water under conditions where no volume expansion is possible.

103. (Previously Presented) The hygiene article of Claim 102, comprising a feminine hygiene article.

KCC-3002

14

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

104. (Previously Presented) The hygiene article of Claim 102,
comprising a sanitary napkin.

105. (Previously Presented) The hygiene article of Claim 102,
comprising a panty liner.

106. (Previously Presented) The hygiene article of Claim 102,
wherein the liquid-permeable layer comprises a central aperture.

107. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 45,
comprising a diaper.

108. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 45,
comprising an incontinence pad.

109. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62,
comprising a feminine hygiene article.

KCC-3002

15

P300/cbs

Serial No.: 09/402,059

Docket No.: KCC-13368.10

As added
G1
concl'd

110. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62,
comprising a diaper.

111. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 62,
comprising an incontinence pad.
